Streamlining the Panchayat Raj Administration.

ORDER NO. DPC 304 EGZ 74, BANGALORE, DATED 27TH MAY 1974.

The State Accounts Department, in its several reports of Audit of the Panchayat Raj Institutions, has pointed out the following defects in their working :—

1 Omissions to prepare annual budgets in time and incurring of expenditure without getting the budgets approved ;

2 Accumulation of taxes due to non-collection ;

3 Embezzlements and mis-appropriation ;

4 Non-maintenance of prescribed registers ;

5 Reluctance to augment Panchayat Income by revision of House tax and levy of new taxes ; and

6 Omission to conduct periodical meetings of the Panchayats as well as meetings of the Committees.

The above defects are almost recurring in every audit report.

The question of remedying the above defects was engaging the attention of the Government from some time past. Most of the above defects are capable of rectification if periodical inspections of panchayats are conducted by the appropriate authorities to guide the Panchayat Raj Institutions. Effective scrutiny and follow-up action should also be ensured over the resolutions passed by the Panchayats in the offices of Taluk Boards, Assistant Commissioners and the Deputy Commissioners. It is felt that at the District level, effective administrative control is inadequate and Government consider that the posts of District Planning and Youth Services Officers should be re-designated as District Panchayat and Youth Services Officers and these officers should be involved fully and effectively in the working of the Panchayat Raj institutions and that they should function as Executive Assistants to the Deputy Commissioner in matters relating to Panchayat Raj institutions.

Therefore, it is hereby ordered that :

(1) the posts of District Planning and Youth Services Officers be designated as District Panchayat and Youth Services Officers with immediate effect and (2) the District Panchayat and Youth Services Officers be entrusted with the work of supervision over the Panchayat Raj institutions. They should function as the Executive Assistant to the Deputy Commissioner in so far it relates to the Panchayat Raj administration ;

Till alternative arrangements are made by the Planning Department, these officers should attend to the work concerning Department also.

By Order and in the name of the Governor of Karnataka,

B. ANDANAPPA,

Under Secretary to Government,
Development, Housing, P. Raj and
Co-operation Department.

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